

~~24.~~ An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising at least 810 contiguous nucleotides from the coding region of SEQ ID NO:1.

~~25.~~ An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide wherein, except for at least one and not more than 50 conservative amino acid substitutions, said polypeptide has an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a polynucleotide encoding amino acids from about 1 to about 270 of SEQ ID NO:2;

(b) a polynucleotide encoding amino acids from about 2 to about 270 of SEQ ID NO:2;

(c) the polynucleotide complement of the polynucleotide of (a) or (b); and

(d) a polynucleotide at least 90 % identical to the polynucleotide of (a), (b), or (c).

A' 26. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 25, wherein the number of conservative amino acid substitutions is not more than 40.

27. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 25, wherein the number of conservative amino acid substitutions is not more than 30.

28. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 25, wherein the number of conservative amino acid substitutions is not more than 25.

29. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 25, wherein the number of conservative amino acid substitutions is not more than 20.

30. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 25, wherein the number of conservative amino acid substitutions is not more than 15.

31. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 25, wherein the number of conservative amino acid substitutions is not more than 10.

32. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 25, wherein the number of conservative amino acid substitutions is not more than 5.

33. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 25, wherein the number of conservative amino acid substitutions is not more than 3.

34. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 23, which is DNA.

35. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 25, comprising the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO:1.

~~36.~~ An isolated nucleic acid that encodes a Tetraspan-7 protein having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

~~37.~~ An isolated nucleic acid molecule that encodes a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:13.

~~38.~~ An isolated nucleic acid molecule that encodes a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:14.

REMARKS

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated September 4, 2002, applicants have cancelled claims 1-22 and added claims 23-38, which are directed to polynucleotides of the invention. The claims are supported in the specification as filed, at least at page 1, line 17 to page 2, line 17; page 3, lines 6-8; page 7, lines 10-21; and page 12, lines 3-7.

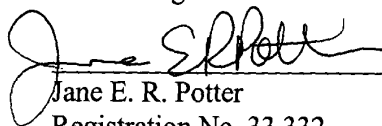
Examination of these claims as one group and allowance of the claims is earnestly solicited.



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

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JEP:jh